

# SMART GOVERNMENT

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE

WASHINGTON STATE PRODUCTIVITY BOARD

August 2007



“

We have the privilege and significant responsibility of protecting some of the world's great places -- Puget Sound, Pacific Coast, Cascades and Olympics, Lake Chelan, the Columbia and Spokane rivers. The list is long and we all have our favorites. I am thankful I work in an organization of smart and dedicated people who are up to the challenge.”

Jay Manning,  
Department of Ecology, Director

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## Ecology Employee's Idea Protects our Environment

Emma Johnson, a Resource Efficiency Coordinator with the Washington State Department of Ecology set out to change the way unwanted pharmaceuticals were being disposed of. The method of flushing them down the toilet or sink created a high level environmental and health hazard. Later found in our surface and ground water, this disposal posing a mounting risk to people and environment. Improperly disposed medicines, result in numerous accidental poisonings each year. In Washington State, a safe and effective disposal option had never been developed. She assembled a team of high-level advisors and project partners to address the problem in Washington State.

Despite Emma's already heavy workload, she methodically organized a diverse team to tackle the issue. She successfully brought together seasoned professionals to work with her to establish a pilot program. The first of its kind program in the United States for the safe return of unwanted pharmaceuticals to retail pharmacies. The team made up of non-profit organizations, local governments, other state agencies, private retail pharmacies and advisory staff from the Board of Pharmacy. Emma's persistence and determination helped the team to overcome any and all obstacles.

The lack of legal, safe and environmentally sound disposal options for unwanted medicines is now being recognized as a national crisis.



Emma Johnson learns about the Province-wide Product Stewardship Pharmaceutical Program. She is pictured with Stan Jeppesen, Board of Pharmacy and Paul Iverson, Residuals Management Group.



Productivity Board Meetings

September 7, 2007

October 5, 2007

November 2, 2007

December 7, 2007

Meetings are held at 10:00 am in the Office of the Secretary of State located in the Legislative Building.

Did you know?

- Since 1983 more than 20,188 employees have submitted ideas, saving more \$54 million dollars.
- In 2000 the Productivity Board revised the “Brainstorm” program, and is now referred to as the Employee Suggestion Program.
- The Productivity Board consists of 10 members ranging from elected officials to private sector administrators, union representatives, and state agency directors.

EXCELLENCE

2007 Extra Mile Winners

Dan Pacholke and Tom Matthews- Department of Corrections

Dan and Tom were able to save taxpayers 1.3 million dollars in water conservation at the Cedar Creek Corrections Center and surrounding communities. The Center ordered reduced waste water from the kitchen and laundry facilities and increased efficiency of the facility Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Beverly J. Baumgart and Thomas Waugh- Parks and Rec

Performing work at Pacific Beach and witnessed an injured teenager on the beach and another teen unconscious on the surf. Ranger Baumgart and ranger Waugh risked their own lives to rescue the teens.

Tony Raines- Military Department

Tony learned of a family in Packwood whose home was severely damaged in a flood and lost most of their small farm animals they depended on for their livelihood. In a matter of days, Tony delivered 9 goats, 8 rabbits, 21 chickens, straw, hay, feed, roofing materials and other items to this extremely poor and destitute family. The family is now better off than they were before the flood thanks to the generosity of Tony Raines.

Ralph Martinez- Department of Transportation

While driving back from a meeting, Ralph ended up coming to the rescue of a family stopped on the side of the road flagging for help. They did not speak English, but since Ralph was bilingual he discovered their son had been choking in the back of the car. Paramedics were called and the child rushed to the hospital. Ralph led the family to the hospital. He later followed up with a phone call to the hospital and fortunately learned the child was okay.



Pictured: Lt. Gov. Brad Owens with Extra Mile winners Dan Pacholke and Tom Matthews

Department of Ecology Word Search

	s	c	l	e	a	n	u	p	l	v	w	n	g	e
Spills	l	e	c	n	n	e	l	u	r	a	u	y	s	h
Cleanup	a	n	l	e	h	o	e	g	t	c	n	i	y	t
Air Quality	i	v	i	m	c	o	i	e	o	o	h	t	l	s
Shorelands	r	i	m	d	l	o	r	t	i	t	i	r	p	d
Water	e	r	a	e	s	t	l	s	u	l	a	i	a	n
Ecology	t	o	t	h	s	l	s	o	a	l	l	r	i	a
Emission	a	n	e	s	e	i	i	u	g	l	l	e	c	l
Research	m	m	w	r	m	i	q	n	s	y	t	o	l	e
Environment	n	e	o	e	l	r	l	d	g	m	g	s	p	r
Puget Sound	e	n	o	t	i	r	e	s	e	a	r	c	h	o
Watershed	e	t	s	a	w	s	u	o	d	r	a	z	a	h
Recycle	r	n	s	w	r	e	c	y	c	l	e	w	u	s
Toxics	g	s	c	i	x	o	t	r	e	t	t	i	l	n
Pollution														
Climate														
Hazardous														
Waste														
Litter														
Green Materials														

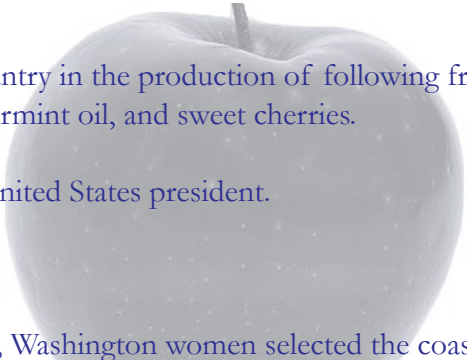
Washington State Facts:

Washington is ranked number one in the country in the production of following fruits and vegetables: apples, lentils, dry edible peas, hops, pears, red raspberries, spearmint oil, and sweet cherries.

Washington is the only state named after a United States president.

Washington has more than 1,000 dams.

In 1892, before women had the right to vote, Washington women selected the coast rhododendron as the state flower. They wanted an official flower to compete in a floral exhibit at the 1893 World’s Fair in Chicago. Six flowers were considered. The final selections were narrowed to clover and the “rhodie.” Voting booths were set up for ladies throughout the state. When the ballots were counted, the rhododendron had been chosen as the Washington state flower.





Roselyn or "Ro" is the Director of Legal Affairs for the Office of Financial Management. Ro received her Bachelor of Science in Management from New York University, in New York City and her Juris Doctor Degree from Pace University Law School, in White Plains, New York. Since becoming an attorney in 1985, she has devoted her career to public service. She is a former JAG Officer with the US Army and Special Assistance US Attorney in Columbia, South Carolina. She was an Assistant Attorney General with the Washington State from 1989-1996.

## QUARTERLY

Productivity Board  
Member Roselyn Marcus

## SPOTLIGHT

She then spent two years in Austin, Texas as the General Counsel to the Texas Racing Commission. She returned to Washington as Lead Attorney in the Contracts and Legal Affairs office at DIS. She teaches Contract Negotiations for the University of Washington Tacoma Division. She was recently appointed to the Public Records Exemptions Accountability Committee. She has admitted to practicing law in Washington, New York and Texas.

### Productivity Board Members:

- Governor Christine Gregoire- Ex-Officio
- Secretary of State Sam Reed - Chair
- State Auditor Brian Sonntag
- Department of General Administration Director Linda Villegas Bremer
- Department of Social & Health Services Appointee Kathleen Brockman
- Private Sector Representative- Retired Mike Kerschbaum PEMCO Financial Services
- Speaker of the House Appointee George Masten
- Office Of Financial Management Appointee Roselyn Marcus
- Federation of State Employees Appointee Wanda Riley
- Department of Personnel Assistant Director Scott Turner
- Council of College Presidents Executive Director Terry Teale

### Washington State Productivity Board

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*Washington*  
**Secretary of State**  
SAM REED

